

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element for securing loads, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein it is made, divided in a grid, with openings (2), in the manner of cable, belt, strap or string, the openings (2) having side elements (40) and transverse elements (44), that the side elements consist of an elastic and/or semielastic material and the transverse elements consist of an inelastic and/or semielastic material and that the openings (2) are designed to accommodate a fastener and for looping through at least one other identical or similar tensioning element.

2. (Original) Tensioning element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the fastener is a hook or hook-like formation.

3. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the fastener is optionally part of the tensioning element.

4. (Original) Tensioning element as claimed in claim 2, wherein any length of the tensioning element can be selected by attaching at least one hook.

5. (Original) Tensioning element as claimed in claim 2, wherein the tensioning element has at least one hook or a hook-like formation which is present injected on as an injection-molded part.

6. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in claim 1, wherein the transverse element (44) has the same or different width and thickness.

7. (Original) Tensioning element as claimed in claim 1, wherein it consists of polyurethane, PVC, synthetic rubber, natural rubber, leather, synthetic leather, nonwovens, yarn groups, yarns, synthetic yarns, natural fibers, high-performance fibers, textiles, woven steel, stranded yarn, knit steel, steel fibers, aluminum fibers, braided textiles, textile fabrics or of a combination of these materials.

8. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-7~~ claim 1, wherein it is reinforced with steel strands for enhancing the resistance to cutting and tearing.

9. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-8~~ claim 1, wherein it has cut-proof reinforcement of aramid fibers, PE fibers, steel fibers, aluminum or high-performance fibers.

10. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-9~~ claim 1, wherein it forms an octopus strap with at least one second, similar, preferably identical tensioning element (4)' by looping through the openings (2) of the first tensioning element.

11. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-9~~ claim 1, wherein several tensioning elements 1, 1' with the same or different grid lengths form a net by repeatedly looping through the openings (2) of other tensioning elements.

12. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed claim 10 ~~or 11~~, wherein the grid arrangement of the openings (2, 2') and the diameter of the openings (2, 2') are such

that after looping through in the untensioned or tensioned state the tensioning elements cannot move against one another in the tensioned state even without sewing.

13. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-12~~ claim 1, wherein [it] is designed for loads starting at 10 daN from an elastic, semielastic or inelastic material or a combination of these materials and is used to secure loads.

14. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-10~~ claim 1, wherein it is designed as a load net for trucks or as a cargo retaining net in aircraft and ships.

15. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-10~~ claim 1, wherein it is made as a receiving net.

16. (Currently Amended) Tensioning element as claimed in ~~one of claims 1-12~~ claim 1, wherein it is present as roll material.